# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
11 September 2015

**2015 session**
Agenda item 19 (*c*)

## Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 21 July 2015

[*on the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/2015/30)*]

### 2015/24. Improving the quality and availability of statistics on crime and criminal justice for policy development

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 67/189 of 20 December 2012, in which the Assembly requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue strengthening the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and comparable data and information, and strongly encouraged Member States to share such data and information with the Office,

*Recalling also* its resolution 2013/37 of 25 July 2013 on improving the quality and availability of statistics on crime and criminal justice for policy development, in which it affirmed its support of the activities in the road map to improve the quality and availability of crime statistics at the national and international levels[1] and approved the plan to finalize by 2015 an international classification of crimes for statistical purposes as a methodological tool for harmonization and for the improvement of international and regional comparability,

*Reaffirming* the commitment to endeavour to strengthen the development and use of tools and methods aimed at increasing the availability and quality of statistical information and analytical studies on crime and criminal justice at the international level, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of responses to crime and to enhance the effectiveness of crime prevention and criminal justice programmes at the national, regional and international levels, as set forth in the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015,[2]

[1] See E/CN.3/2013/11.

[2] Resolution 2015/19, annex.



Please recycle

*Recognizing* the importance and cross-cutting nature of information and statistics in developing and supporting public policies at the national, regional and global levels, as well as in measuring the implementation of relevant international instruments in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

*Emphasizing* that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Statistical Commission should continue their complementary and joint efforts in the field of statistics on crime and criminal justice,

*Underscoring* the importance of technical assistance and of building the capacity of Member States to collect, analyse, report and disseminate accurate and comparable statistics on crime and criminal justice,

1. *Acknowledges* the road map to improve the quality and availability of crime statistics at the national and international levels[1] as a valuable conceptual and operational framework to improve statistics on crime and criminal justice, and encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and all relevant partners to continue activities for its implementation, subject to availability of resources;

2. *Welcomes* the deliberations of the Statistical Commission at its forty-sixth session, held from 3 to 6 March 2015, at which the Commission endorsed the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes as an international statistical standard for the collection of data from both administrative records and statistical surveys and as an analytical tool to elicit specific information on factors driving crime, confirms the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the custodian of the International Classification, and endorses the implementation plan,[3] including the creation of a technical advisory group to provide the Office with substantive advice and support in the maintenance of the International Classification;

3. *Recognizes* the comprehensive and inclusive preparatory work conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, Member States and experts to develop the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and test its feasibility;

4. *Invites* Member States to develop national plans for the gradual adoption of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and the strengthening of national statistical systems on criminal justice in order to contribute to the effectiveness of their national legislation and policies, taking into account relevant international instruments in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, by encouraging a productive dialogue among national authorities responsible for the collection, processing and dissemination of statistics on crime and criminal justice, including national statistical offices, so as to foster the implementation of the International Classification by all national authorities concerned;

5. *Encourages* Member States to continue their efforts to improve crime statistics at the global level, through, inter alia, the exchange of experiences and good practices and the establishment of statistical centres in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and in that context reaffirms the positive contribution of the Centre of Excellence for Statistical Information on

[3] See E/CN.3/2015/7.

Governance, Victimization, Public Security and Justice, established jointly by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico;

6. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States to continue to support the implementation of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes in accordance with the outlined implementation plan and subject to availability of resources, with particular reference to information campaigns, methodological support and technical assistance provided to requesting Member States;

7. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the technical advisory group to be established and in consultation with Member States, and within its existing mandates, to support the maintenance of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes through, inter alia, the review and evaluation of the implementation plan, and requests the Office to continue to provide relevant information to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to the Statistical Commission for their consideration in this regard;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop, in consultation with Member States, technical and methodological tools to assist countries in producing and disseminating accurate and comparable statistics on crime and criminal justice, and to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States in order to enhance their capacity to collect, analyse and report data on crime and criminal justice;

9. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

10. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*53rd plenary meeting*
*21 July 2015*